Kathy Dahlkemper COUNTY EXECUTIVE

MEDIA RELEASE

Contact: Kristin Bowers kbowers@eriecountypa.gov 814-451-7440

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, January 17, 2019

Erie County Data Center, online portal launch as economic development tools

Erie, PA – Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper was joined Thursday by local economic development officials and business leaders to launch the Erie County Data Center, a state-of-the-art interactive tool run through the Erie County Department of Planning and Community Development.

The Data Center, which provides up-to-date information on Erie County's workforce, facilities, logistics, industry trends and more, is a new resource that interested business owners and entrepreneurs can use in making decisions on whether to locate to or expand in Erie County.

"The Erie County Data Center is a cutting-edge tool that will serve as an exciting new layer in our overall economic development ecosystem," Dahlkemper said. "This valuable resource will help attract new businesses to our region by putting all of the vital data they need in one easily accessible place. And as a bonus, it also will help inform the efforts of our existing businesses and entrepreneurs, to help them flourish and grow."

The Data Center anchors ChooseErie.com, an online portal to the region's economic development ecosystem that was spearheaded by Erie County government and went live this week.

Dahlkemper on Thursday also announced that Erie County government was passing ownership of ChooseErie.com to the Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership, which will take responsibility for maintaining and further developing the portal.

(more)

"County government was proud to lead the way in establishing ChooseErie as a one-stop shop for economic development resources," Dahlkemper said. "Now that the Erie Regional Chamber has emerged from its transitional period, we are pleased to turn it over to the capable hands of CEO James Grunke and his team."

The ChooseErie.com project developed out of the Up For the Job initiative launched by Dahlkemper, in partnership with economic development officials and UE Local 506 leaders.

The Erie County Data Center was created to compile and present essential information that site selectors need – an important component that helps power the ChooseErie.com portal. The Data Center is funded by Erie County government, the Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership, the Erie County Redevelopment Authority and the City of Erie.

###